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LETTER DATED 10 OCTOBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement made by Mr. Muhammed Said al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, to a representative of the Iraqi News Agency on 10 October 1994.

I should be grateful if you would inform the members of the Security Council of this statement and have it circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement dated 10 October 1994 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq to the Iraqi News Agency

Mr. Muhammed Said al-Sahaf, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, made the following statement to the Iraqi News Agency.

In the light of Iraq's contacts with friendly international and regional parties regarding the position with respect to the lifting of the unjust sanctions and of the contacts that those circles have had with it in recent days, during which they expressed concern at the presence of units of the Republican Guard in Basra, some of them noting that this presence will be used as a pretext by the United States to resist in one way or another the pressure being put on it by friends and the international community to change its obstinate position regarding the maintenance of the unjust sanctions against Iraq; and since it has become clear to all that security and stability in the region cannot be achieved as long as sanctions continue to be imposed on Iraq and its people are made to suffer, and that mutual understanding, the lifting of the sanctions and respect for Iraq's rights constitute the only valid way for every party in the region to work according to its size, influence, capacity and creative ability to achieve peace and security in the region; in view of these facts and in response to the requests made by a number of friends, and without calling in question Iraq's right to sovereignty and freedom of action within its national territory, it has been decided to redeploy the aforementioned units to different positions in the rear in order to complete the planned exercises.

We hope that the diplomatic efforts mentioned by friends and by most members of the international community will produce tangible results in the form of a lifting of the unjust sanctions and the affirmation of Iraq's legitimate rights.